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**SEP 06 2005**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the Application of:

James K. Ward, et al

Application No.: 10/675,438

Filed: September 30, 2003

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD  
FOR FORMING A BUTT  
SPlice

Examiner: Mark A. Osele

Group Art Unit: 1734

Attorney Docket No.: 12761US02

**CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

*I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office (FAX No. (703) 872-9306) on September 6, 2005.*

*William B. Gors*

*[Signature]*  
Signature

**Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner Osele:

This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action mailed July 8, 2005.

Please enter and consider the following.